

Appln No. 10/659,018
Amdt. Dated March 24, 2005
Response to Office Action of February 7, 2005

3

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Office Action of February 7, 2005. The objections and submissions made by the Examiner in the Office Action have carefully been considered and it is submitted that distinguishing features are present in the claims.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 -4 and 6 as being unpatentable over Rampuria, in view of Wang. The Applicant contests the Examiner's conclusion in relation to all rejected claims and files the following submission.

As the Examiner rightfully notes, the patent of Rampuria et al. discloses a system of discrete components. In particular the disclosure there refers to a seismic data transcription system that "*comprises an electronics housing 10 in which is mounted a master communications bus 12 into which is inserted a plurality of circuit boards*" (last paragraph in col. 3). It is clear from this description that the bus 12 and the discrete components 14, 20 and 40, quoted by the Examiner in his objection, are not "*fabricated on a single substrate*". Furthermore, Figures 1 and 2 specifically represent the "*purposefully specific functional units*" 24, 34 and 38 as units that are external for the housing 10. Thus, the arrangement disclosed in Rampuria et al. is substantially different from the single-substrate integrated circuit defined in the claims of the present invention.

The Applicant draws to the Examiner's attention the fact that the claimed invention is developed within the context of a high-performance color printer. The claimed circuit is specifically developed in view of the high requirements of this printer towards high processing speed, high efficiency and low energy consumption. Accordingly, the integration of all elements on a single substrate is essential for the overall performance of the circuit. Since an essential feature of the invention is neither disclosed nor suggested in either of the cited documents, it is submitted that a skilled addressee, apprised with the cited document, will not be directed to the present invention as a matter of straightforward routine. Accordingly, claim 1 is both novel and inventive. Furthermore, because of their dependence on a patentable claim, the rest of the claims are also novel and inventive.

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4

Allowable subject Matter

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the useful comments in this section.

Finally, the Applicant draws the Examiner's attention to the short paragraph in the middle of section 1 of the Detailed Action, which refers to clarification of new matter and a shortened statutory period of 1 month. Since the relevance of these comments to the present application is not obvious to the Applicant, it will be assumed that these comments have been inadvertently included in the Office Action and they will be ignored for the purpose of this response.

Amendment

The Applicant has updated Page 1 of the specification with a corrected paragraph pertaining to cross references to related applications. Also the Applicant resubmits a corrected Declaration. The Applicant submits that these amendments introduce no new matter.

In light of the above discussion, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed and the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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5

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